



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:

NED M. SMITH, ET AL.

Application No.:

Filed: February 15, 2001

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
CONTROLLING A LIFECYCLE OF AN
ELECTRONIC CONTRACT**

Art Group:

Examiner:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR § 1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, enclosed is a copy of Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO-1449 together with copies of the documents cited on that form. It is respectfully requested that the cited documents be considered and that the enclosed copy of the Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO-1449 be initialed by the Examiner to indicate such consideration and a copy thereof returned to applicant(s).

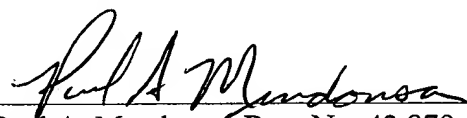
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed as an admission that the information cited in this statement is material to patentability.

Please charge any additional fee due to Deposit Account 02-2666. A duplicate copy of the Fee Transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: February 15, 2001


Paul A. Mendonsa, Reg. No. 42,879

12400 Wilshire Blvd., 7th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025
Telephone: (503) 684-6200

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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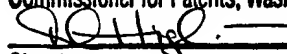
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